

#13

ACADIA-ST. LANDRY HOSPITAL
810 SOUTH BROADWAY
CHURCH POINT, LA 70525
(318) 684-5435
FAX # (318) 684-5449

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

DATE: 12-18-96 TIME: 8:25 A.M.

TO: MR. ORREN E. CAMERON III

COMPANY NAME: RURAL Utilities Service

FAX NUMBER: 202-720-4099

SENDER: ALCUS TRAHAN

SUBJECT: FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Inquiry

OF PAGES: 8 (INCLUDING TRANSMITTAL SHEETS)

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SPECIAL COMMENTS:

Please call me should there be any
questions. Happy Holidays! Thanks!

PLEASE VERIFY RECEIPT OF THIS FAX. THANK YOU!

Mr. Trahan authorized release of this
to the public by phone on 1/8/97.

Ed Cameron
IRUS

**SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE IN NEW ORLEANS**
Louisiana State University
Medical Center
1800 Canal Street, 8th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70112
Telephone: (504) 599-1396
Fax: (504) 568-6905

Department of Public Health and
Preventive Medicine

FAX transmittal

DATE 12/17/96

TO Mr. Alcus Trahan

FAX 318-684-5449

FROM Mr. Jim Benoit

RE Telemedicine

PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 7

COMMENTS:

210 -

184-444

68.D

318 684 5449

DEC-13-1996 09:38

SOUTHERN PROPOSALS
FROM LUSAR RUS

202202221

12-12-96 14:02 1481 22



December 12, 1996

United States
Department of
Health and
Human Services

Rural Health Service

Washington, DC 20420-4100

SUBJECT: Federal Communications Commission Inquiry
Support of Rural Telemedicine

TO: All RUS Telemedicine Grant Recipients

FROM: ROBERT PETERS
Assistant Administrator

Robert Peters

As you may know, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 requires that certain rural telemedicine users be provided telemedicine-related communications services at the same rates as urban users. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently writing rules to ensure that this portion of the Act is carried out fairly.

As an RUS telemedicine grant recipient, you are one of the pioneers in rural telemedicine. Your experience with telemedicine could be invaluable to the FCC as it prescribes the levels of support for rural telemedicine users.

The FCC has requested RUS and other agencies with Federal telemedicine grant programs to ask you to complete the enclosed survey. There are fewer than 100 rural telemedicine grant recipients nationally who could answer the survey questions. Although participating in the survey is voluntary, we believe this is a convenient way for you to influence a proceeding that will affect the communications rates you pay for telemedicine.

The primary targets of this survey are to learn the cost differentials between communications services in urban areas and rural areas, to learn the data rate or bandwidth of the most used communications services (i.e. 144 kb/s ISDN, T1, fractional T1, voice), and to study Internet usage.

Some RUS grant recipients receiving this survey may not have implemented proposed telemedicine networks or systems. If this is your situation, please complete the survey to the best of your ability. You may already know the costs and fees for your telemedicine services, and probably considered other technologies prior to applying for your grant.

The enclosed draft letter was also provided by the FCC to help explain the inquiry. Please note that RUS realizes you cannot respond by their target date of December 13, 1996. Nevertheless, your input is considered vital by the FCC, and we understand that surveys received in the near future will be an important factor as they make their determinations.

To expedite the process, we are sending you the survey by facsimile and we ask that you respond by facsimile as soon as possible. Please return this survey to:

Orma E. Cameron III
Rural Health Service
Phone: 202-720-8463
FAX: 202-720-4099

*Bill Young
RUS*

07.0

SOUTHERN PROPOSALS
FROM USOR NUS

5445 489 812

DEC-13-1996 09:35

5043459846

12-12-96 14:02

[48] 83

TELEMEDICINE USER SURVEY

1. Name of project:

Acadia - St. Landry Hospital Teleradiology Link

2. Please list each of the project's sites:

Name of Site:

State in which it is located:

Acadia - St. Landry Hospital

Louisiana

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

LA

MEDICAL CENTER

Please answer the following questions for each of your sites. Use additional sheets if necessary.

3. What is the nearest city of population equal to or greater than 50,000 in your state, and approximately how far are you from its boundary?

City: Lafayette, LA

Distance from city boundary: within 25 miles

4. Name of the project's telecommunications service provider:

CENTURY, BELL SOUTH

5. Level of telecommunications service the project is currently using: (For example: voice grade, 144 Kbps (ISDN), 384 Kbps, T-1 or equivalent, or higher rate)

T-1

6. Charges for telecommunications service:

Is there a monthly charge? No

Yes ☒

If yes, how much is the charge?

\$358

P.10
P.11

FAX NO. 318 684 5449
FAX NO. 318 684 5449

ACADIA ST LANDRY HOSP. 9:41 AM
ACADIA ST LANDRY HOSP. 9:40 AM
DEC-13-96 FRI

11 d

5843459046 12-12-96 14:03

DEC-13-1996 09:33 9661-01-030

SOUTHERN PROPOSALS

5843459046

12-12-96 14:03

1401 04

Is there a usage-based charge? No ☒ Yes ☐
 If yes, how much is the charge? _____

Is there a distance component (such as a per-mile fee) of the charge?
 No ☒ Yes ☐
 If yes, how much is the charge? _____

Was there an installation fee? No ☐ Yes ☒
 If yes, how much is the charge? \$75.00 _____

Is the charge the regular tariffed rate, or is there a discount from the telecommunications provider? Tariffed ☐ Discount ☒
 If there is a discount, how much is it? NO DISTANCE CHARGES _____

7. How does the project use telecommunications in the delivery of health care? (For example -- to send x-rays, distribute public health information, or perform video consultations. Please identify any occasional or episodic uses, such as might result from an outbreak of disease.)

VIDEO CONSULTATIONS WITH SPECIALISTS
 TELECONFERENCES
 ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS
 X-RAY CONSULTATIONS

8. Could the project provide the services it is currently providing with less bandwidth? What effect would a lesser level of bandwidth have? (The implications of using greater or lesser levels of telecommunications services are related to image transmission time. What would be the impact if the health care activities for which you now use telecommunications took twice as long, or if they could be completed in half the time?)

SOME SERVICES COULD BE PROVIDED
 AT LOWER BANDWIDTH SUCH AS TELECONFERENCES
 AND PSYCHIATRIC CONSULTATIONS BUT MOST
 MEDICAL SPECIALTY CONSULTATIONS, PARTICULARLY
 DERMATOLOGY AND SURGICAL CONSULTS
 REQUIRE HIGHER BANDWIDTH FOR DIAGNOSTIC
 RESOLUTION.

P.12

SOUTHERN PROPOSALS
FROM: USDA RUS

6PPS 189 812

DEC-13-1996 09:00

5943459846

12-12-96 14:03

1481 MS

9. What would the implications of having a greater level of bandwidth be?

COULD MOVE X-RAY IMAGES FASTER
& OFFER HIGHER BANDWIDTH IMAGING SUCH AS
CT AND MRI. ALSO PROGRAM COULD OFFER
LIMITED TELEPATHOLOGY SERVICES, PARTICULARLY
CYTOLOGY (PAP SMEARS).

10. Do you have e-mail? No ☒ Yes ☐

11. Do you have Internet access? No ☒ Yes ☐

If yes, do you incur long-distance charges by using it?

No NA Yes NA

Please estimate your number of hours of internet use per month:

12. If you have access to the Internet, please list any purposes other than e-mail (such as accessing databases such as Lexis/Nexis)? for which you use it:

NA

P.12

FAX NO. 318 684 5449

DEC-13-96 FRI 9:41 AM ACADIA ST LANDST HOSP.

FAX

#14

Date 12/18/96

Number of pages including cover sheet 4

TO: Orren E. Cameron, III
Rural Utilities Service
United States Department of
Agriculture
Rural Utilities Service
Washington, DC

Phone 202/720-8663
Fax Phone 202/720-4099

FROM: Dr. Stanley Fowler
Research and Special
Projects
University of South Carolina
School of Medicine
Bldg. 28, Room 231
Columbia, SC 29208

Phone 803/733-3117
Fax Phone 803/733-1543

CC:

REMARKS: ☐ Urgent ☐ For your review ☐ Reply ASAP ☐ Please Comment

The South Carolina Telemedicine Program is a joint project of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine and Richland Memorial Hospital in Columbia, SC. Responses to your requested survey are provided on the attached pages.

Regards,

Dr. Stanley Fowler

TELEMEDICINE USER SURVEY

1. Name of project:

Telemedicine for Rural South Carolina

2. Please list each of the project's sites:

Name of Site:

State in which it is located:

Columbia

SC

Winnsboro

SC

Camden

SC

Please answer the following questions for each of your sites. Use additional sheets if necessary.

3. What is the nearest city of population equal to or greater than 50,000 in your state, and approximately how far are you from its boundary?

City: Columbia

Distance from city boundary: 35 miles, each site

4. Name of the project's telecommunications service provider:

BellSouth and GTE

5. Level of telecommunications service the project is currently using: (For example: voice grade, 144 Kbps (ISDN), 384 Kbps, T-1 or equivalent, or higher rate)

Fractional T-1

6. Charges for telecommunications service:

Is there a monthly charge? No _____ Yes x

If yes, how much is the charge? Approximately \$1,370 per month per site.

Is there a usage-based charge? No ☒ Yes _____

If yes, how much is the charge? _____

Is there a distance component (such as a per-mile fee) of the charge?

No ☒ Yes _____

If yes, how much is the charge? _____

Was there an installation fee? No ☒ Yes _____

If yes, how much is the charge? _____

Is the charge the regular tariffed rate, or is there a discount from the telecommunications provider? Tariffed ☒ Discount _____

If there is a discount, how much is it? _____

7. How does the project use telecommunications in the delivery of health care? (For example -- to send x-rays, distribute public health information, or perform video consultations. Please identify any occasional or episodic uses, such as might result from an outbreak of disease.)

General telemedicine including video consultations, x-ray, and ultrasound transfer; education for medical students and allied health professionals; and patient education.

8. Could the project provide the services it is currently providing with less bandwidth? What effect would a lesser level of bandwidth have? (The implications of using greater or lesser levels of telecommunications services are related to image transmission time. What would be the impact if the health care activities for which you now use telecommunications took twice as long, or if they could be completed in half the time?)

We work at 384 kb and can go no lower in bandwidth without degradation of images to the point of being medically unusable. This has been tested in the field.

9. What would the implications of having a greater level of bandwidth be?

Rural communities cannot afford expensive telephone line charges. We do
fine at 384 kb.

10. Do you have e-mail? No _____ Yes X

11. Do you have Internet access? No _____ Yes X

If yes, do you incur long-distance charges by using it?

No X Yes _____

Please estimate your number of hours of internet use per month:

Have not tracked usage.

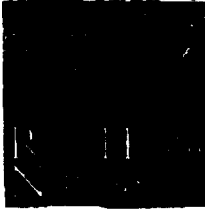
12. If you have access to the Internet, please list any purposes other than e-mail (such as
accessing databases such as Lexis/Nexis)? for which you use it:

General web surfing for information; no specific site is used.



#15

HIGH PLAINS



An Equal Access Telemedicine Provider

218 East Kiowa Street
Fort Morgan, CO 80701
(970)867-6195
Fax: (970)867-5579

To: Ed Cameron

Date: December 18, 1996

Fax #: (202)720-4099

Pages: 8(including this cover sheet)

From: Bryan Nation

Subject: FCC survey

COMMENTS:

Questions to Address:**1. Name of project:**

High Plains Rural Health Network

2. Please list each of the project's sites:

Name of Site:	State in which it is located:
Haxtun Hospital District	Haxtun, CO
Melissa Memorial Hospital	Holyoke, CO
Sterling Regional MedCenter	Sterling, CO
Rawlins County Hospital	Atwood, KS
Cheyenne County Hospital	St. Francis, KS
Memorial Health Center	Sidney, Ne
Kit Carson County Memorial Hospital	Burlington, Co

** Continued on attached page

Please answer the following questions for each of your sites.
Use additional sheets if necessary.

3. What is the nearest city of population equal to or greater than 50,00 in your state, and approximately how far are you from its boundary?

**Please refer to attached page

City: _____ Distance from city boundary: _____

4. Name of the project's telecommunications service provider:

US West, PTI, Southwestern Bell, Phillips County Telephone Co., Haxtun Telephone Co., WilTel, AT&T

5. Level of telecommunications service the project is currently using: (For example, voice grade, 144 Kbps (ISDN), 384 Kbps, T-1 or equivalent)

T-1 lines that are daisy-chained

2. Project sites, continued.....

Colorado Plains Medical Center
East Morgan County Hospital
Keefe Memorial Hospital
Yuma District Hospital
Wray Community Hospital
Vail Valley Medical Center
McKie Wellness Center
North Colorado Medical Center
Poudre Valley Hospital
St. Anthony Central Hospital
Plains Medical Center
Presbyterian/St. Luke's Hospital
Estes Park Medical Center

Fort Morgan, CO
Brush, CO
Cheyenne Wells, CO
Yuma, CO
Wray, CO
Vail, CO
Loveland, CO
Greeley, CO
Fort Collins, CO
Denver, CO
Limon, CO
Denver, CO
Estes Park, CO

6. Charges for telecommunications service:

Is there a monthly charge? No ☐ Yes ☒If yes, how much is the charge? \$21,721.62Is there a usage-based charge? No ☐ Yes ☒If yes, how much is the charge? Refer to attached chartIs there a distance component (such as a per-mile fee) of the charge? No ☐ Yes ☒If yes, how much is the charge? Refer to attached chartWas there an installation fee? No ☐ Yes ☒If yes, how much was the charge? Varies from \$600-1500/siteIs the charge the regular tarrified rate, or is there a discount from the telecommunications provider? Tarrified ☒ Discount ☐

If there is a discount, how much is it? _____

7. How does the project use telecommunications in the delivery of health care? (For example -- to send x-rays, distribute public health information, or perform video consultations. Please identify any occasional or episodic uses, such as might result from an outbreak of disease.)

Interactive video: mental health, medical services, education, administrative conferencing

Store and forward medical imaging

Teleradiology between some sites

8. Could the project provide the services it is currently providing with less bandwidth? What effect would a lesser level of bandwidth have? (The implications of using greater or lesser levels of telecommunications services are related to image transmission time. What would the be the impact if the health care activities for which you now use telecommunications took twice as long, or if they could be completed in half the time?)

No. Less bandwidth would adversely impact the project: by reducing the quality of audio and video transmission, increasing the time it takes to transmit data, reducing the number of sites that could simultaneously participate in a conference, by preventing the transmission of data and videoconferencing simultaneously (due to increased transmission time).

9. What would the implications of having a greater level of bandwidth be?

* Shorter transmission times

* Improved audio and video quality- these are extremely important in healthcare applications

* Voice services could be added

* Data (e.g. patient records) could be sent with videoconferencing

* ACR recommendations for radiologic films could be observed

10. Do you have e-mail? No ☐ Yes ☒ At some sites- refer to attached page

11. Do you have Internet access? No ☐ Yes ☒ Refer to attached page
If yes, do you incur long-distance charges by using it?

No ☐ Yes ☐ ** Refer to attached page

Please estimate your number of hours of Internet use per month:

In the High Plains Rural Health Network office- about 50 hours

12. If you have access to the Internet, please list any purposes other than e-mail (such as accessing databases such as Lexis/Nexis) for which you use it:

Literature searches

Technology updates

General information

HPRHN has a web page that provides information about it projects and members. Member hospitals can use this vehicle to post job openings and for physician recruitment, as well as to promote their facilities and local programs.

**** attached page**

3. What is the nearest city of population equal to or greater than 50,000 in your state, and approximately how far are you from its boundary?

Rural Hospitals and Clinics		
Rural cities	Distance from 50,000 city boundary	Completed / functional
Cheyenne Wells, CO.	125 miles	X
Burlington, CO.	135 miles	X
Limon, CO.	65 miles	end of January
Estes Park, CO.	20 miles	end of January
Haxtun, CO.	105 miles	X
Sterling, CO.	75 miles	X
Holyoke, CO.	120 miles	X
Wray Clinic	125 miles	end of January
Wray, CO.	125 miles	end of January
Brush, CO.	55 miles	X
Yuma, CO.	105 miles	end of January
Sidney, NE.	100 miles	end of January
Atwood, KS.	285 miles	X
St. Francis, KS.	145 miles	X

6. Charges for telecommunications service: In the Telecommunications Chart.

- Is there a usage-based charge? Yes, the usage is only on the out of state sites that dial-in to Colorado. The state of Kansas supports ISDN (PRI & BRI) through out all rural areas by back hauling the service to a central location. The price of this service is slightly less than DS 1 prices in the state of Colorado. ISDN PRI service with Southwestern Bell Monthly recurring is \$454.00/site with a \$.04/min/channel usage fee plus a longdistance fee of \$.06/min/channel. Colorado currently does not support switch services in rural area.

- Is there a distance component (such as a per-mile fee) of the charge? Yes, refer to attached chart. The telephones companies don't charge you by the way the crow flies (point-to-point), but in the way their infrastructure is routed through the state.

The out of state locals (Atwood, KS., St. Francis, KS. and Sidney, NE.) are being re-engineered because of changes in infrastructure.

10. Do you have e-mail? Yes, some sites do have Internet access for e-mail. Sorry, with the amount of time to turn this report in, we couldn't get all this information.

6. Charges for telecommunication services:

Telecommunication Chart

Site to Site	M / Recuring	As the crow flies	Circuit type	Service carriers	Installation
Cheyenne Wells - Burlington	\$1,138.11	32 miles	DS 1	PTI - PTI	\$806.00
Burlington - Limon	\$1,777.26	72 miles	DS 1	PTI - US West	\$816.50
Limon - Denver Gateway (ICC pop)	\$2,094.60	80 miles	DS 1	US West - Wiltel - US West	\$826.50
Estes Park- Ft. Collins	\$926.50	25 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
Ft. Collins - Denver Gateway (ICC pop)	\$1,305.00	55 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
Haxtun - Sterling	\$924.61	29 miles	DS 1	Haxtun Phone - US West	\$797.55
Sterling - Ft. Morgan Hub	\$1,031.45	39 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
Holyoke - Ft. Morgan Hub	\$2,127.20	80 miles	DS 1	Phillips Phone - US West	\$700.00
Ft. Morgan - Ft. Morgan Hub	\$96.00	1.5 miles	LATA	US West - US West	\$1,483.75
W Clinic - Wray	\$125.00	1 mile	LATA	PTI - PTI	\$200.00
Wray - Yuma	\$1,309.00	25 miles	DS 1	PTI - PTI	\$806.00
Yuma - Brush	\$1,330.46	47 miles	DS 1	PTI - US West	\$816.50
Brush - Ft. Morgan Hub	\$526.50	10 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$1,427.25
Loveland - Greeley	\$733.20	20 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
G Clinic - Greeley	\$125.00	0.25 miles	LATA	US West - US West	\$200.00
Greeley - Ft. Morgan Hub	\$1,206.36	50 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
St. Anthony - Denver Hub (1(800)video-on)	\$200.00	7 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
Vail - Denver Hub (1(800)video-on)	\$1,658.75	72 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
Presbyterian St. L - Denver Hub (1(800)video-on)	\$245.00	8 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
UofCHSC - Denver Hub (ICC pop)	\$320.68	5 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
MCC - Ft. Morgan Hub	\$300.00	3 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
Denver Gateway (ICC pop) - Ft. Morgan Hub	\$1,500.02	73 miles	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
Denver Gateway (ICC pop) - Denver Hub (1(800))	\$360.46	1 mile	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
Denver Gateway (ICC pop) - Denver Hub (1(800))	\$360.46	1 mile	DS 1	US West - US West	\$626.50
Installation Total					\$16,224.55
Monthly Recurring	\$21,721.62				
Yearly Recurring	\$260,659.44				

December 12, 1996

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rural Utilities Service

Washington, DC 20250-1300

SUBJECT: Federal Communications Commission Inquiry
Support of Rural Telemedicine

TO: All RUS Telemedicine Grant Recipients

FROM: ROBERT PETERS
Assistant Administrator



As you may know, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 requires that certain rural telemedicine users be provided telemedicine-related communications services at the same rates as urban users. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently writing rules to ensure that this portion of the Act is carried out fairly.

As an RUS telemedicine grant recipient, you are one of the pioneers in rural telemedicine. Your experience with telemedicine could be invaluable to the FCC as it prescribes the levels of support for rural telemedicine users.

The FCC has requested RUS and other agencies with Federal telemedicine grant programs to ask you to complete the enclosed survey. There are fewer than 100 rural telemedicine grant recipients nationally who could answer the survey questions. Although participating in the survey is voluntary, we believe this is a convenient way for you to influence a proceeding that will affect the communications rates you pay for telemedicine.

The primary targets of this survey are to learn the cost differentials between communications services in urban areas and rural areas, to learn the data rate or bandwidth of the most used communications services (i.e. 144 kb/s ISDN, T1, fractional T1, voice), and to study Internet usage.

Some RUS grant recipients receiving this survey may not have implemented proposed telemedicine networks or systems. If this is your situation, please complete the survey to the best of your ability. You may already know the costs and fees for your telemedicine services, and probably considered other technologies prior to applying for your grant.

The enclosed draft letter was also provided by the FCC to help explain the inquiry. Please note that RUS realizes you cannot respond by their target date of December 13, 1996. Nevertheless, your input is considered vital by the FCC, and we understand that surveys received in the near future will be an important factor as they make their determinations.

To expedite the process, we are sending you the survey by facsimile and we ask that you respond by facsimile as soon as possible. Please return this survey to:

Orren E. Cameron III
Rural Utilities Service
Phone: 202-720-8663
FAX: 202-720-4099

###

TELEMEDICINE USER SURVEY

1. Name of project:

Conejos County Hospital

2. Please list each of the project's sites:

Name of Site:

State in which it is located:

① Conejos Co. Hospital

Las Alamos, Colorado

② Huerfano Co. Medical Center

Walsenburg, Colorado

③ Porter Care Hospital

Denver, Colorado

Please answer the following questions for each of your sites. Use additional sheets if necessary.

3. What is the nearest city of population equal to or greater than 50,000 in your state, and approximately how far are you from its boundary?

① Pueblo - 120 mi.

② Pueblo - 50

③ ∅

City: _____

Distance from city boundary: _____

4. Name of the project's telecommunications service provider:

Sprint Communications

5. Level of telecommunications service the project is currently using: (For example: voice grade, 144 Kbps (ISDN), ~~144 Kbps~~, T-1, or equivalent, or higher rate)

~~ISDN~~

POTS

6. Charges for telecommunications service:

Is there a monthly charge? No

Yes X

If yes, how much is the charge?

① No - POTS

② ~~100.00~~

③ ~~200.00~~

NOTE: This is a Teleradiology project and does not require more than POTS

Is there a usage-based charge? No Yes

If yes, how much is the charge? \$40 an hour

Is there a distance component (such as a per-mile fee) of the charge?

No Yes

If yes, how much is the charge?

Was there an installation fee? No Yes

If yes, how much is the charge? N/A

Is the charge the regular tariffed rate, or is there a discount from the telecommunications provider? Tariffed Discount

If there is a discount, how much is it?

7. How does the project use telecommunications in the delivery of health care? (For example -- to send x-rays, distribute public health information, or perform video consultations. Please identify any occasional or episodic uses, such as might result from an outbreak of disease.)

X-RAYS

8. Could the project provide the services it is currently providing with less bandwidth? NO What effect would a lesser level of bandwidth have? (The implications of using greater or lesser levels of telecommunications services are related to image transmission time. What would be the impact if the health care activities for which you now use telecommunications took twice as long, or if they could be completed in half the time?)

Using Data

9. What would the implications of having a greater level of bandwidth be?

FASTER TRANSMISSION

10. Do you have e-mail? No Yes

11. Do you have Internet access? No Yes

If yes, do you incur long-distance charges by using it?

No ~~Yes~~

Please estimate your number of hours of internet use per month:

N/A

12. If you have access to the Internet, please list any purposes other than e-mail (such as accessing databases such as Lexis/Nexis)? for which you use it:

N/A

#17



December 12, 1996

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Rural Utilities Service

Washington, DC 20250-1608

SUBJECT: Federal Communications Commission Inquiry
Support of Rural Telemedicine**TO:** All RUS Telemedicine Grant Recipients**FROM:** ROBERT PETERS
Assistant Administrator

As you may know, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 requires that certain rural telemedicine users be provided telemedicine-related communications services at the same rates as urban users. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently writing rules to ensure that this portion of the Act is carried out fairly.

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Orren E. Cameron III
Rural Utilities Service
Phone: 202-720-8663
FAX: 202-720-4099

###

TELEMEDICINE USER SURVEY

1. Name of project:

Colorado Telehealth Project

2. Please list each of the project's sites:

Name of Site:

State in which it is located:

Conejos Co. HospitalLA JARA, ColoradoKremmling Memorial HospitalKremmling, ColoradoJulesburg Sedgewick Co. HospitalJulesburg, ColoradoPorterCare HospitalDenver Co.

Please answer the following questions for each of your sites. Use additional sheets if necessary.

3. What is the nearest city of population equal to or greater than 50,000 in your state, and approximately how far are you from its boundary?

① 120 mi. Pueblo; ② Kremmling, 120 to Denver; ③ Julesburg 180 mi. Denver.
City: _____ Distance from city boundary: ④ 0

4. Name of the project's telecommunications service provider:

Sprint Communications

5. Level of telecommunications service the project is currently using: (For example: voice grade, 144 Kbps (ISDN), 384 Kbps, T-1 or equivalent, or higher rate)

6. Charges for telecommunications service:

Is there a monthly charge? No

Yes

If yes, how much is the charge?

① \$2,416 mo. ② \$1,666 mo ③ \$2,133 mo
④ \$1,000

Is there a usage-based charge? No

Yes

If yes, how much is the charge?

440.00

Is there a distance component (such as a per-mile fee) of the charge?

No

Yes

If yes, how much is the charge?

Was there an installation fee? No

Yes

If yes, how much is the charge?

14,000.00

Is the charge the regular tariffed rate, or is there a discount from the telecommunications provider? Tariffed

Discount

If there is a discount, how much is it?

7. How does the project use telecommunications in the delivery of health care? (For example -- to send x-rays, distribute public health information, or perform video consultations. Please identify any occasional or episodic uses, such as might result from an outbreak of disease.)

Medical Consultations thru 2-way Interactive Video
X-Ray Transmission
CME
Community Health Education
Surgical Followup

8. ¹ Could the project provide the services it is currently providing with less bandwidth? ² What effect would a lesser level of bandwidth have? (The implications of using greater or lesser levels of telecommunications services are related to image transmission time. What would be the impact if the health care activities for which you now use telecommunications took twice as long, ³ or if they could be completed in half the time?)

¹ NO - Less specificity For Medical Applications
² X-Rays would be Long Transmissions
³ Greater. Possibly Not too much Benefit